

**TITLE****Surface Treatment of Ethylene-based Polymer Pellets to Improve  
Blocking Resistance****ABSTRACT**

The method of this invention for raising the stick temperature of pellets of ethylene-based copolymers with an acid content at least 5 weight percent has the steps of contacting the pellets with an aqueous solution of a water-soluble metal salt of an aliphatic acid having fewer than 12 carbon atoms, and drying the pellets. The resulting ethylene-based copolymers have a stick temperature of above 25°C and preferably at least 5°C above that of the untreated pellets.

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